

NCI Transition Career Development Award (K22)

PURPOSE

To facilitate the transition of investigators from the mentored to independent stage of their careers in cancer research by providing "protected time" to develop their initial cancer research programs.

ELIGIBILITY

Degree Type: prevention, control, behavioral, and population scientists; basic scientists, M.D.s, clinical scientists; patient-oriented research (health professional doctorates only and NIH intramural Ph.D.s)

Award Type: individual

Career Stage: junior faculty, independent scientist

Other:

- Candidates must:
 - Be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents at the time of award (see [program announcement](#) for definition of non-citizen nationals)
 - Be doctorally degreed individuals who have been educated as clinicians (e.g., M.D.s, oncology nurses) or as prevention, control and population scientists (e.g., Ph.D.s, Dr.P.H.s, M.D.s) and are ready to pursue independent careers in cancer research. NIH intramural scientists may apply, but they must be pursuing a career in research directly relevant to human cancer and have at least 3 years of mentored postdoctoral experience at the time of award
 - Be able to commit a minimum of 75% of professional effort to the research and research career development objectives of the award
 - Submit an R01 (or equivalent) research grant application to the NIH or equivalent funding organization prior to the end of the second year of support
- Applications must be submitted, on behalf of the candidate, by domestic organizations, public or private, such as research foundations/institutions, commercial entities, medical schools or other institutions of higher education, or Federal laboratories
- At time of application, candidates must be in a "mentored" cancer research postdoctoral position and have completed 2 years or more of research, or be in a suitable independent position for less than 2 years with continuous previous postdoctoral cancer research training
- Candidates in a postdoctoral position are eligible to apply for an NCI Transition Career Development Award (K22) without an institutional affiliation and may transition to independence at their current institution. If an award is made, candidates will have 1 year to locate appropriate independent position.
- Recipients of K23, K08, Howard Temin or equivalent awards, former or current Principal Investigators of Small Grants (R03), exploratory/developmental grants (R21) or equivalent grants are eligible
- NOT ELIGIBLE:
 - Former or current Principal Investigators on NIH research project grants, (e.g., R01) or equivalent peer reviewed grants are not eligible

FUNDING

Period of Support: Up to 3 years, not renewable

Direct Cost Max/Year: \$125,000

Allowable costs: Salary - Up to \$75,000 plus fringe benefits; Research development support - Up to \$50,000 (covers such items as tuition, fees, books, research expenses, travel, research support services, including personnel and computer time)

DETAILS

The NCI Transition Career Development Award (K22) is intended to facilitate the transition of investigators from the mentored to the independent stage of their careers in cancer research, by providing "protected time" for newly independent investigators to develop and receive support for their initial cancer research programs. The award applies to clinicians who are pursuing basic science careers, clinicians who are pursuing careers in patient-oriented research, and to individuals pursuing careers in the prevention, control, and population sciences.

To apply, a candidate must have completed 2 years or more of postdoctoral, mentored research or have been in an independent position for less than 2 years at the time the application is submitted. The unique feature of this award is that individuals may apply without a sponsoring institution while they are still in a "mentored" position.

Successful postdoctoral applicants will be given up to 12 months to identify an independent, preferably tenure track, position at a sponsoring institution before an award can be activated. For postdoctoral applicants, the sponsoring institution for a K22 award can be their current institution or a new institution. Candidates must commit 75% of a full time professional effort to conducting research and research career development.

Individuals in postdoctoral positions can apply without an institutional affiliation; individuals in an independent position must have the institution submit an application on their behalf. For postdoctoral applicants, the sponsoring institution for a K22 award can be their current institution or a new institution. K22s can be supported for up to 3 years and provide for salaries up to \$75,000 plus fringe benefits and other costs up to \$50,000 per year. Candidates must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents.

Recipients of mentored career development awards (K awards) may hold concurrent support from the career award and a competing research grant when recognized as a Principal Investigator or subproject Director.

The K22 is not renewable.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Candidate

- Quality of the mentored period of training in cancer research including research productivity
- Potential for becoming a successful independent investigator during the term of the award
- Strength of the reference letters
- If already in an independent position, suitability of the current position to pursue an independent research career

Research Plan

- Originality, innovativeness and scientific merit, relative to the experience level of applicant
- Extent to which plan goes beyond the mentored environment
- Medical and/or health significance to cancer
- Where appropriate, adequacy of inclusion plans for minorities, women and children
- Where appropriate, adequacy of inclusion plans for protection of humans or animals

Budget

- Adequacy of justification in relation to goals and research aims

DATES TO APPLY**APPLICATION RECEIPT DATES**

February 1

June 1

October 1

INITIAL REVIEW DATES

May/June

October/November

February/March

NCAB REVIEW DATES

September/October

January/February

May/June

APPLICATION FORMS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT (PAR-04-040)

<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-04-040.html>

FURTHER INFORMATION

Transition Career Development Award

<http://cancertraining.nci.nih.gov/research/basicmd/k22full.html>

Transition Career Development Award (Basic Scientists, M.D.s)

<http://cancertraining.nci.nih.gov/research/prevention/k22.html>

Mentored Career Development Awards: Change in NIH Policy Concerning Concurrent Support from Career Development Award and a Research Grant

<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-04-007.html>

NCI CONTACTS

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